

A. Duties:

Incumbent serves as an Animal Health Technician responsible for nonprofessional technical and specialized work involved in a variety of animal disease control and eradication programs within a section (an assigned county or group of counties).

Subject to existing State statutes and Federal regulations, the typical section assignment may include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following duties:

Inspects and tests livestock and poultry located on ranches, farms, auction markets, etc., for carriers of diseases such as parasites and vector and for indications of diseases such as brucellosis, bluetongue, sheep and cattle scabies, cattle fever ticks and other ticks, screwworms, scabies, and other diseases and carriers, both foreign and domestic. Also inspects animal dealers' facilities and investigates at horse shows for evidence of violation of the animal welfare laws.

Makes arrangements with owners for testing cattle for brucellosis. Where State laws, regulations, and policies permit, conducts testing activities by drawing blood samples from animals; conducting necessary serologic tests; tagging, branding, and appraising reactors; and reporting results to the appropriate official. Instructs and supervises animal owners regarding the cleaning and disinfecting of barns, trucks, feedlots, and other premises and reexamines as well as performs such activity as required to insure compliance with instructions; appraises animals for indemnity purposes; performs regulations enforcement (primary investigations, issuances of warning notices, execution of violation notices, etc.); investigates reports received from farmers, county agents, and others relative to communicable diseases of livestock; contacts owners of the diseased or exposed animals, inquires as to when the disease first appeared, the symptoms exhibited, how the disease progressed, and any losses by death; checks on source and quality of feed, manner of feeding and, where regulations relative to feeding exist, checks for compliance with such regulations; checks on water supply, suitability of animal quarters, and general sanitary conditions of the premises; contacts other nearby livestock owners whose animals might be affected by the disease and provides program information regarding preventive measures. Other duties may include: inspection of garbage feeding activities and associated animals on premises; collection of blood samples; collection of milk and cream sample of the Brucellosis Ring Test; vaccination and identification of calves; and application of back tags to market cattle.

Inspects animal dealers' and exhibitors' premises for compliance with requirements of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act. Inspects animals such as cattle, sheep, swine, and horses moving in interstate commerce for visible evidence of disease and to assure compliance with Federal-State regulations pertaining to interstate and intrastate movements. Checks waybills and certificates, establishes identity and classification of incoming consignments, inspects livestock for symptoms and vectors of disease, supervises the disposition of diseased animals, supervises the dipping of livestock, prepares certificates to cover the movement of livestock which has been approved, placards cars and other vehicles occupied by infected or exposed livestock, oversees the cleaning and disinfecting of infected premises, checks railroad records and facilities for compliance

with the 28-Hour Law, and maintains contacts with stockyard employees and other associated personnel.

Conducts routine phases of investigations of violations of Federal interstate regulations regarding the movement of animals. Initiates cases or prepares initial reports of apparent violations.

Serves as a member of a READEO emergency disease task force as assigned.

B. Responsibility for the Work of Others:

May be assigned to train and oversee the work of lower grade technicians as assigned.

C. Supervision Received:

Incumbent works under the general supervision of a Veterinarian or higher-grade technician. Supervisor outlines objectives and describes procedures to be followed on new or non-repetitive assignments. Work is reviewed for adherence to policies and compliance with procedures, instructions, and precedents. Work is reviewed by periodic tours with the incumbent and through review of records and reports.

(This standard job description cites the primary and typical but not all-inclusive duties of the position.)